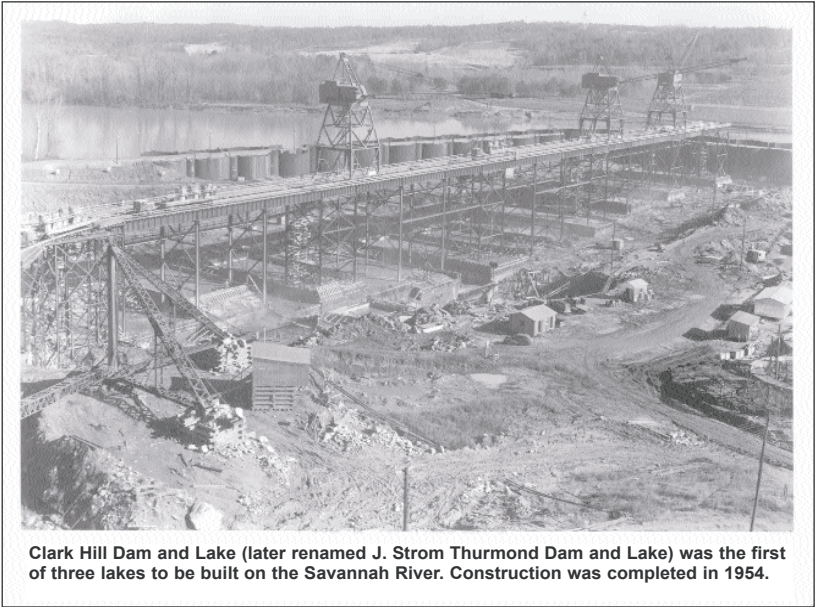


Project lands acquired under different policies

The land base at Corps projects varies across the nation, based on when Congress authorized the project and the acquisition policy in use at the time the land was acquired. Each of the three Savannah District dam and lake projects was authorized by different legislation enacted between 1944 and 1966 and the land for each project was acquired under a different acquisition policy, resulting in a large land base at Thurmond, a very small land base at Hartwell, and a moderately sized land base at Russell.

J. Strom Thurmond Dam and Lake— the first of three projects approved for construction under the general plan for developing the upper Savannah River Basin. Thurmond was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1944 and the land acquired under the Pre-1953 Acquisition Policy (commonly referred to as the Truman Policy). Under the Truman Policy, land acquisitions were determined on a case-by-case basis.



Richard B. Russell Dam and Lake - the last of the three projects constructed on the Savannah River. It was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1966 and the land acquired under the Joint Acquisition Policy (so named because it was the "jointing" of land acquisition policies from the Department of the Army and the Department of the Interior). The Joint Policy, like the Eisenhower Policy, limited land acquisition to what was required for project purposes. However, to increase the buffer between the lake and private property, it also required acquisition of land to a 5-foot vertical elevation or a 300-foot horizontal distance above the top of the flood pool, whichever resulted in more land. Russell's full pool elevation was set at 475 ft. msl and the top of the flood pool set at 480 ft. msl. Therefore, lands were acquired to 485 ft. msl or to a 300-foot horizontal distance from the top of the flood pool, resulting in approximately a 300-foot buffer of land around the lake.

Authorized purposes

The Congressionally authorized project purposes for Thurmond and hartwell lakes are hydroelectric power, water supply, water quality, recreation, fish and wildlife, flood control, and downstream navigation. Russell Lake has the same project purposes as the other projects, minus downstream navigation. The lake has a small conservation storage (see FAQ's on Lake Levels) and essentially just passes water from Hartwell Lake through to Thurmond Lake; it is not designed to store enough water to supplement downstream navigation needs.

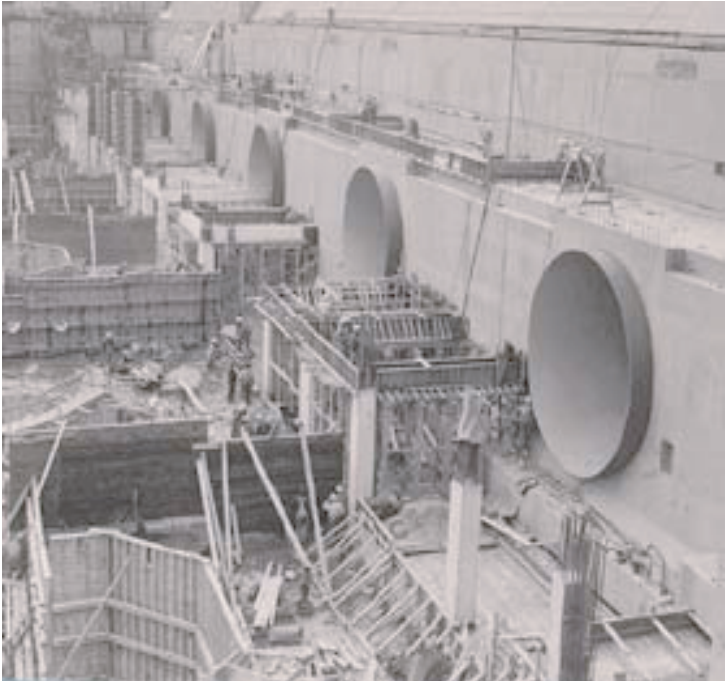
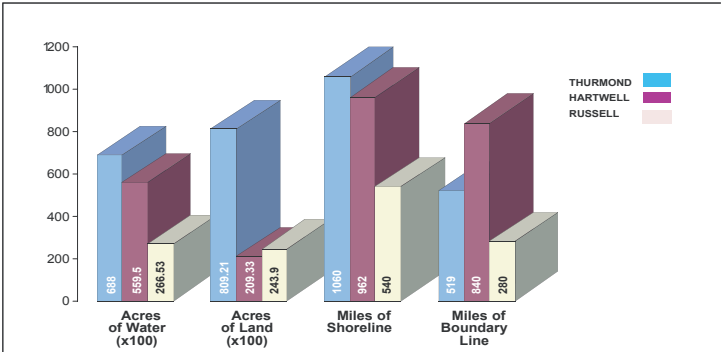
	THURMOND	HARTWELL	RUSSELL
Acquisition Policy	Pre-1953 Truman	1953-1962 Eisenhower	1962-Present Joint
Authorization	Flood Control Act of 1944 PL 78-534	Flood Control Act of 1950 PL 81-516	Flood Control Act of 1966 PL89-789
Completed	1954	1962	1985
Full Pool*	330 ft. msl	660 ft. msl	475 ft. msl
Flood Pool	335 ft. msl	665 ft. msl	480 ft. msl

*Full pool is the elevation to which the lake surface will rise during ordinary conditions. It is also the lake level at the top of a lake's conservation storage, measured in feet above mean sea level (msl).

Thurmond's full pool elevation (top of the conservation pool) was set at 330 feet mean sea level (msl) and the top of the flood pool set at 335 ft. msl. In general, land below 346 ft. msl was acquired. Distances from the boundary line to full pool typically range from 400 to 600 feet or more.

Hartwell Dam and Lake— the second multipurpose project constructed on the Savannah River. Hartwell was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1950 and the land acquired under the 1953-1962 Acquisition Policy (commonly referred to as the Eisenhower Policy), which limited land acquisition to what was required for operational purposes, as a cost-saving measure. Hartwell's full pool elevation was set at 660 ft. msl. and the top of the flood pool set at 665 ft. msl. In general, land below 670 ft. msl. was acquired. Distances from the boundary line to full pool typically range from 100 to 200 feet.

The Difference in land acquisitions under the Truman and Eisenhower policies is the reason Hartwell has a much smaller land base than Thurmond



Workers build the penstocks at Hartwell Dam, the second dam and lake project the Corps constructed on the Savannah River. Construction was completed in 1962.